



*Los Angeles County*  
**Sheriff's Department**

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## News Release

**MEDIA ROUNDTABLE FOCUSING ON GANG-RELATED CRIME REDUCTION EFFORTS IN  
THE COMPTON, CENTURY AND LENNOX  
SHERIFF'S STATION AREAS**

Members of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Operation Safe Streets Bureau held a media roundtable to discuss gang-related crime statistics and prevention efforts in the Compton, Century and Lennox areas. They highlighted examples of the Sheriff's Department's efforts during the interdiction and investigative portions of specific gang-related crimes.

Most stations experienced no increase in overall crime, while many actually saw a decrease. In 2009, Century Sheriff's Station reported 25 homicides, down from 33 in 2008. In Compton, homicides remained the same for the last three years, and in Lennox, the number decreased from 21 in 2008 to 18 in 2009. Throughout the Department's patrol areas, homicides have significantly decreased from 158 in 2008 to 131 in 2009.

The drop in crime is attributed to the hard work of deputies and investigators, combined with innovative and effective programs in these specific areas. Search, parole and probation warrants, combined with gang injunctions, are some of the techniques that have helped reduce crime.

Other efforts such as "Crime Stoppers," the anonymous tipster program which provides law enforcement with additional ways to investigate crimes while disseminating information across various agency borders, and Operation Safe Streets Bureau's Gang Enforcement trailer, which can be deployed in high crime areas as a mobile command center, have proven highly effective.

Youth Activities Leagues in the Compton, Century and Lennox Station areas provide a safe, supportive haven for counseling, educational tutoring and after-school recreational activities for youth. Ultimately, these programs provide an alternative to gangs and drugs.

"Cooperation is the key to successfully reduce crime, not only within the Department and the community, but with various agencies," stated Captain Paul Pietrantoni of Operation Safe Streets Bureau.

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